

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PEKING 01915 100509Z

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4538

S E C R E T PEKING 1915

NODIS

CHEROKEE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP CH

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S AND PRESIDENT'S VISITS:

EXPANDED USLO

1. BY PEKING 1914, WE MENTIONED CERTAIN ADDITIONS TO THE USLO STAFF THAT COULD BE MADE IN THE NEAR FUTURE WITHOUT RISKING TOO MUCH REDUNDANCY BETWEEN THE FUNCTIONS OF USLO AND CONGEN HONG KONG. AS INDICATED IN THAT MESSAGE, WE ALREADY HAVE A SPACE PROBLEM AT USLO AND ARE HOPING TO MAKE SOME MODEST CHANGES IN OUR PRESENT BUILDING TO BETTER ACCOMMODATE OUR PRESENT STAFF PLUS MINOR INCREASES.

2. SINCE THERE SEEMS LITTLE DOUBT THAT WE WILL EVENTUALLY BE SHIFTING MUCH OF THE HONG KONG WORK TO PEKING, WE BELIEVE THERE WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL ADVANTAGE IN OBTAINING CHINESE AGREEMENT NOW TO EXPANDING OUR FACILITIES TO PUT US IN A POSITION, AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME, TO MAKE THAT SHIFT. WE WILL BE NEEDING A BIGGER BUILDING AND MORE LAND, WITH RECREATIONAL FACILITIES-- IN OTHER WORDS THE SAME ARRANGEMENTS ENJOYED BY OTHER MAJOR COUNTRIES' EMBASSIES HERE AS WELL AS SOME MINOR ONES.

3. I BELIEVE THAT TO THIS END IT WOULD BE MUCH WISER, AND RELATIVELY SIMPLE, FOR THE BASIS OF THIS TO BE

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LAI DURING THE SECRETARY'S VISIT BY MEANS OF THE

SECRETARY SEEKING, IN DIRECT BRIEF CONVERSATION WITH THE CHINESE, PRC HIGH-LEVEL AGREEMENT TO THE IDEA, SIMPLY, THAT WE SHOULD HAVE NEW AND LARGER FACILITIES AND THAT THE CHINESE WILL BE PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH ME IN WORKING OUT AN APPROPRIATELY LOCATED AND APPROPRIATELY AMPLE PARCEL OF LAND. ONCE THIS IS DONE, WE CAN PROCEED MORE EFFECTIVELY TO NEGOTIATE THIS OUT WITH THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICES BUREAU. TO BEGIN TO DO SO AT THIS DATE WOULD HELP ALSO TO POSITION US ON THE GROUND TO OPERATE AS A "NORMALIZED" EMBASSY ONCE THAT DECISION IS MADE IN THE FUTURE.

4. THE CHINESE AGREED TO EXPANDING "SCOPE OF FUNCTIONS" OF THE LIAISON OFFICES IN 1973; AND PRCLO IN WASHINGTON HOUSES SOME SEVENTY STAFFERS. WE WOULD ENVISION, ONCE A DECISION IS MADE TO CENTER OUR CHINA FIELD OPERATION IN PEKING RATHER THAN HONG KONG, AN EVENTUAL DOUBLING, PERHAPS, OF OUR STAFF.

5. WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO DEVISE AN ANNOUNCEMENT PERTAINING TO USLO EXPANSION THAT COULD BE INTERPRETED CREDIBLY AS A SMALL FURTHER SIGN OF PROGRESS IN OUR RELATIONS.

6. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REPEAT TO CONGEN CROSS, WITH WHOM THIS MESSAGE HAS NOT BEEN DISCUSSED.
BUSH

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NNN

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